



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
711 KAPI'OLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

August 17, 2010

H.E. Mr. David Killion  
Permanent Delegation  
of the United States of America  
to UNESCO  
18, avenue Gabriel  
75008 Paris  
FRANCE

**RE: Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument**

Aloha nō Ambassador Killion,

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers our deep gratitude for your successful efforts in leading our delegation through the international challenges to benefit Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and the Native Hawaiians who seek to protect and honor it. As representatives of our agency as well as of our Native Hawaiian beneficiaries, we appreciate your diplomacy, skill and patience in navigating the myriad of international and domestic issues of potential impact to Papahānaumokuākea's inscription as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much) for your leadership.

Papahānaumokuākea's inscription as both a cultural and natural UNESCO World Heritage Site brings international attention to the sacredness and uniqueness of this seascape, and it honors the living Native Hawaiian culture of the entire Hawaiian Archipelago. Respecting indigenous cultures and recognizing their relationships with their places of origin can only help to foster better worldwide understanding of the dual responsibility and privilege of caring for our cultural land and seascapes, inclusive of their natural environments and their varied human and natural histories.

OHA is honored to assist in, and advocate for, perpetuating Native Hawaiian culture, access, rights and resource management skills. With international recognition of the importance of Papahānaumokuākea – a place that Native Hawaiians already cherish and treasure – we continue our commitment to be the kind of stewards that our ancestors taught us to be, for we

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constantly must prepare to give this ancestral gift to our future generations. From all of us, mahalo for your direct, positive impact upon Hawai'i's and Native Hawaiians' ability to preserve and protect a universal and local treasure for the betterment of our shared world.

Me ka mahalo nui (With gratitude),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Haunani Apoliona".

S. Haunani Apoliona, MSW  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oswald Stender".

Oswald Stender  
Trustee-At-Large

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clyde W. Nāmu'o".

Clyde W. Nāmu'o  
Chief Executive Officer